

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

President George W. Bush
President of the United States
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

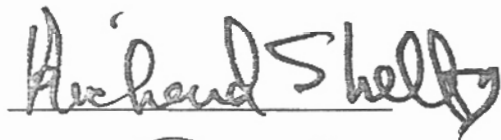
We are writing to reiterate our strong commitment to sufficient levels of investment in our nation's highways and transit systems. We are concerned that inadequate levels of investment in our nation's infrastructure will again prevent a multi-year bill from being enacted.


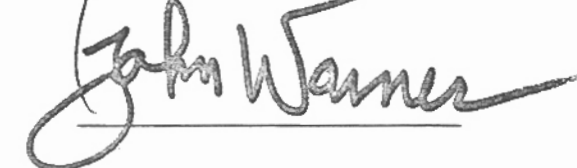
As you know, the Senate passed "Safe, Accountable, Flexible and Efficient Transportation Equity Act of 2004" last year by a vote of 76-21. This level of investment is necessary in order to address the various needs of importance to our states: an equitable distribution of federal transportation funds among both donor and donee states, needed safety improvements, transit improvements, and job creation.



We are hopeful that your budget submission in February will reflect a number which will enable our committees to proceed with reauthorization. We are concerned that an inadequate transportation funding proposal would impair our efforts to complete a long-term bill and, thereby, contribute to further delays in needed state construction activities, dampening our economic growth.

Sincerely,

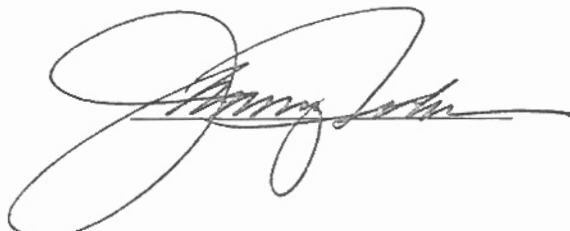

Kit Bond


Richard Shelby


John Thune

John Warner


Judd Gregg

Ted Stevens


Chuck Grassley


Amy Klobuchar

CC:

Senator Bill Frist, Majority Leader
Senator Judd Gregg, Chairman, Budget Committee

Joe Newkirk

David Vitter

David R. Bonior

Chris Hatch

C. L. Chafe

Ray V. Kinnick

Jim Talbot